

To: Transportation Committee
From: Mike Cipriano, Senior Transportation Planner
Date: March 15, 2019
Subject: Eversource Utility Relocation Charges

Below please find a list of questions recently submitted by John Elsesser (Coventry Town Manager) to Kevin Witkos's (Eversource Community Relations Specialist) regarding Eversource's utility relocation charge policies. Also provided are Kevin's corresponding answers via e-mail on March 4th, 2019. In the e-mail, Kevin indicated that they still owe answers to Questions #1 and #5, that their legal team continues to gather information and research on the list of questions, and that he is doing his best to get an answer from his legal folks in as timely a manner. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at mcipriano@crcog.org or (860) 724-4223.

1. *Does Eversource concur that STP eligibility is down to a bridge that is over 20' or more in length. Bridges that do not meet that threshold are eligible if they are carried by a roadway classified as a collector or higher?*

A: We are looking further into this question.

2. *I would like to hear whether or not Eversource considers a project with storm sewers to be a pollution abatement project?*

A: Eversource does not consider them to be the same. The statute (22a-470) states: sewers or other pollution abatement facilities.

3. *If a town needs to make improvements for public safety (replacement of deficient infrastructure, installation of turning lane, road widening) and the relocation is permanent why is there a charge?*

A: Eversource does not historically charge for relocations due to road widening turn lanes or road widening if they remain permanent. I would not include replacement of deficient infrastructure or public safety in this category as they will be determined on a case by case basis within the scope.

4. *If a culvert is allowing stream to flow through and there are no storm water management system that is catch basin and pipes discharging in the area of construction, how is the natural flowing stream meet the criteria of 22a-470?*

A: We are currently looking at how we are going to define these. There will still be a portion of the project that is billable. A culvert project is not a bridge project so they are separate issues According to the initial sheet of explanations, bridges fall under the all other municipal projects, we relocate once for free but not twice. Culverts are a different scenario.

5. *Is Eversource categorizing LOTCIP project roadways a federal surface transportation urban program roadways?*

A: This is an area that we are still investigating.

6. *Does Eversource consider roadway drainage improvement projects as "pollution abatement projects?"*

A: This question appears to be similar to #2 above, therefore our response would be the same.